



## City of Gaithersburg Press Release

**Contact:** Public Information Director  
City of Gaithersburg  
301-258-6310  
cityhall@gaithersburgmd.gov

### For Immediate Release

## Gaithersburg Police Officers Dan Lane and Mary Liddi Presented with Public Safety Awards

**Gaithersburg, MD – (August 31, 2020)** Gaithersburg Police Officers Dan Lane and Mary Liddi were among the 21 public safety officials honored by the Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce as part of its 25<sup>th</sup> annual Public Safety Awards program. This annual awards program, conducted [virtually](#) this year, provides the business community with an opportunity to publicly thank those who help maintain the quality of life in the Gaithersburg and Germantown area. The recorded program can be viewed [here](#).

**Gaithersburg Police Officer Dan Lane** was presented with a Meritorious Service Citation for providing quality service and protection in an efficient and competent manner, tempered with courtesy, compassion and understanding. Officer Lane serves as the Community Services Officer where he is the focal point for communication between Gaithersburg residents and the Police Department. He makes himself available to the community by phone, e-mail, and social media at all hours of the day and night.

In 2019, Officer Lane led the initiative to establish the Department's first ever Police Cadet Program. This program has excelled over the last year, with two cadets being hired as police officers, immediately proving the value of the program.

Officer Lane has excelled in providing services to help mentor and provide positive outlets to youth through the DARE program and serving as an advisor for the Montgomery County Police Explorers program. He also attends and hosts many youth-related initiatives and often goes the extra mile to attend special occasions, such as graduations, for the youth he mentors. He frequently attends trips with various youth groups on his own time. His efforts result in helping to keep youth engaged, informed, and away from trouble.

Officer Lane has also fostered valuable relationships with businesses, community groups, residents, and government agencies. During COVID-19, he has worked traffic and crowd control at food distribution sites in the City to help take the burden off of patrol staff. Officer Lane continues to lead and facilitate many of the Department's outreach efforts, such as National Night Out, Shop with a Cop, and Coffee with a Cop. He also serves as the supervisor of the Honor Guard and routinely assists with the Department's recruiting and hiring efforts.

**Gaithersburg Police Officer Mary Liddi** was awarded a Citation of Bravery for going above and beyond the call of duty by performing an extraordinary and heroic lifesaving action. On July 31, 2019, Officer Liddi was conducting a proactive foot patrol of the lakefront at Washingtonian Rio when she heard what sounded like gurgling and splashing in the water. She checked the area and observed two women in the water struggling to stay afloat. Officer Liddi immediately radioed for officer assistance and requested Fire and Rescue. Without hesitation or concern for her own safety, she swam to both women and pulled them towards the embankment. With assistance from additional officers, both women were pulled out of the water to safety.

An investigation revealed the mother was distraught and had attempted to kill her daughter, who suffers from cerebral palsy, by pushing her off the bridge into ten feet of water. The mother then attempted to commit suicide by jumping off the bridge as well. Both women are unable to swim. Officer Liddi is recognized for saving the lives of the two women.

The Gaithersburg Police Department is a nationally-accredited law enforcement agency that shares responsibility for services with the Montgomery County Police within the City of Gaithersburg. For more information please call 301-258-6400 or visit the City's website at [www.gaithersburgmd.gov](http://www.gaithersburgmd.gov).

###